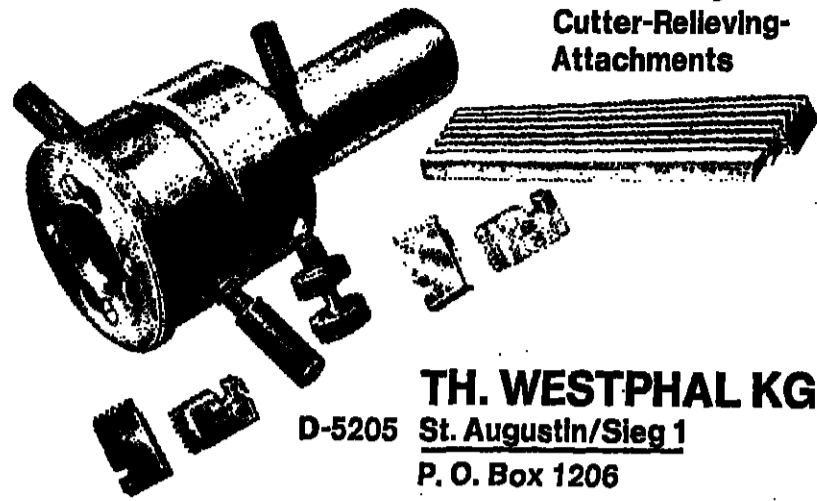


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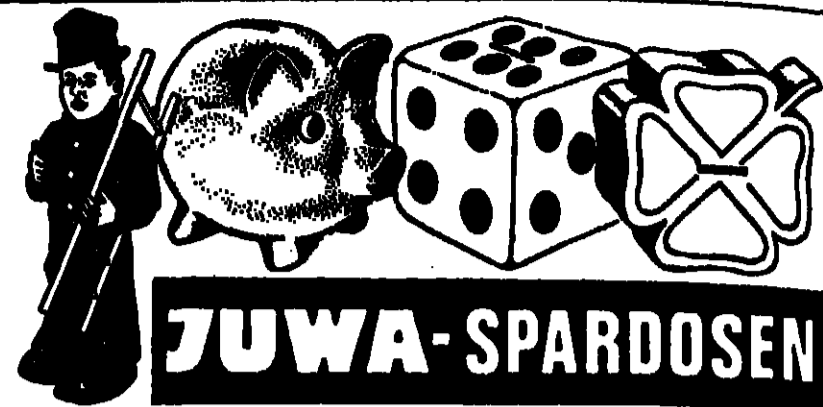
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The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

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EEC members not in the mood for compromise

Kleiner Nachrichten

The Nine are not of a mind to compromise at the moment, neither in their attitude towards the new Israeli government nor on thermonuclear fusion and the Jet project nor on human rights.

Yet when compromise is not on the agenda the Common Market tends to have a helpless look. This is particularly apparent where economic recovery within the European Community is concerned — an objective which really does call for joint endeavour.

Self-interest prevails, even towards Israel, which accounts for the most trenchant Middle East policy statement ever framed by the EEC — a statement, incidentally, which fully accords with current US policy.

The Palestinians, the Nine now claim, have a right to a homeland — a straightforward term which the EEC translators have chosen studiously to circumvent in

The borders envisaged clearly do not include, as the Nine see it, the Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967.

This point is put forcibly to the new Israeli government, coupled with a warning to Mr Begin to refrain from either comments or policies of a warlike nature.

Peace talks must on no account and in no way be prejudiced, the Nine note, framing a joint policy that must surely be very much in keeping with Arab wishes.

The Common Market countries are clearly motivated by anxiety lest fighting is resumed in the Middle East and another Arab oil embargo becomes a distinct possibility.

The Nine do not entirely dismiss the idea of participation in a UN peacekeeping force in the Middle East, although they do not, for that matter, go so far as to offer to do so.

This fairly uncompromising joint stand on the Middle East was dictated by what might be termed joint self-interest, whereas national self-interest remains the hallmark of the debate on nuclear fusion research.

Whitehall is not prepared to part company with the Joint European Torus project and insists that Jet stays put at Culham, near Oxford, rather than transferring to Garching, near Munich.

On the other hand Whitehall also refuses to pay its full share of eighteen per cent (as against a transitional fourteen per cent) of the EEC budget from next year. Were Britain only prepared to foot its share of the Brussels bill, a compromise might well prove possible.

Bonn might then, or so it seems, abandon its political misgivings (which are shared, incidentally, by smaller members of the Common Market) and allow Britain to keep Jet.

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The German Tribune Political Affairs Review is included with this issue

the German-language version of the policy statement, intriguingly enough.

But the Common Market leaders are not prepared to say where, in their view, this homeland might be situated within the context of a Middle East peace settlement, although they are doubtless thinking in terms of the West Bank.

The latest Common Market statement on the Middle East testifies to a significant shift in the EEC's viewpoint, even though the Nine reiterate the Israelis' right to live in peace within secure and acknowledged frontiers.



Britain's Prime Minister James Callaghan, left, with President Giscard d'Estaing of France and this country's Chancellor Helmut Schmidt at the EEC summit in London on 29 June (Photo: dpa)

Janos Kadar of Hungary visits Bonn

Bölnner Stadt-Anzeiger

Hungarian leader Janos Kadar's three-day official visit to Bonn testifies to the normalisation of relations between the two countries.

This particular item on Bonn's Ostpolitik agenda may have come a little late in the day, but Mr Kadar's visit, originally scheduled for last year, had to be postponed.

The Hungarian leader has paid the West more frequent visits in recent years, calling to mind his country's traditional ties. Can historic friendships survive an ideological reorientation in this way?

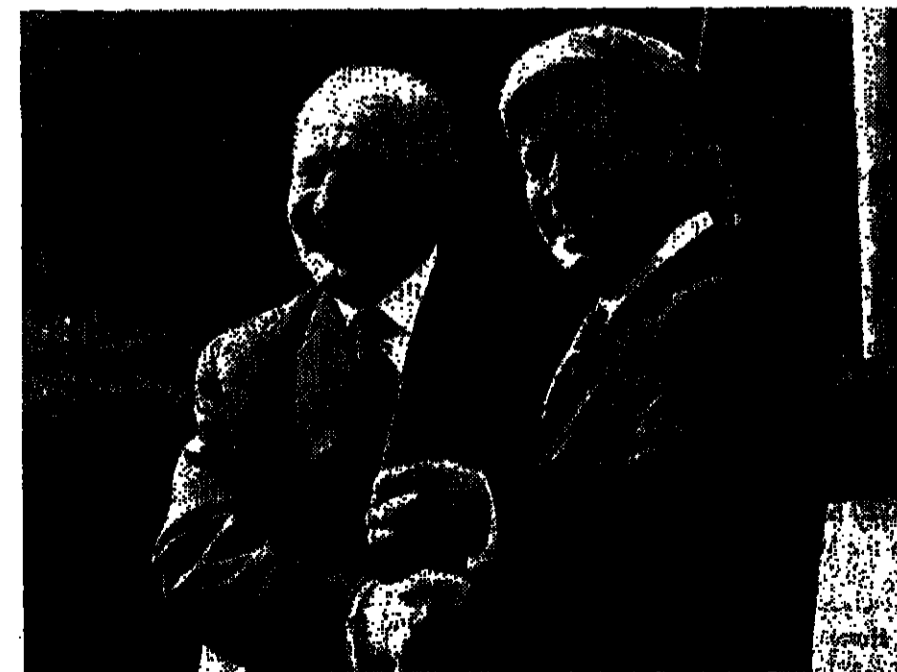
Even before formal links were forged, bilateral contacts flourished at many levels. Hungary, unlike other communist countries in Eastern Europe, has an ethnic German minority that was never a political problem.

Hungary's German minority community, which numbers some 200,000 people, has always — since the war, that is — been regarded by the GDR as its responsibility.

Ethnic Germans living in Hungary have not opted en masse to apply for exit permits to start a new life in the West. Occasional instances of families separated by political divisions have invariably been settled to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between Bonn and Budapest the Foreign Ministers have held regular consultations. In 1974, Walter Scheel

Continued on page 2



Hungarian leader Janos Kadar with Chancellor Helmut Schmidt in Bonn on 4 July 1977 (Photo: Sven Simon)



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